



# RRRASOC THE RE-SOURCE GUIDE

Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Guidelines from The Recycling Authority

## Welcome to the RE-Source Guide

The Recycling Authority has developed the RE-Source Guide to put important recycling and waste handling information at your fingertips. We hope you'll find the contents interesting and informative and will keep it handy for future reference.

### Stay Informed. Stay Connected.

<p><b>ONLINE</b></p> <p>Search the Recycling Directory.</p> <p>Sign up for the "Recycling Authority" monthly e-newsletter.</p> <p> <a href="http://www.rrrasoc.org">www.rrrasoc.org</a></p>	<p><b>MOBILE</b></p> <p>Download the "Recycling Authority" mobile app to use and search the Recycling Directory.</p> <p> Download on the App Store  GET IT ON Google play</p>	<p><b>SOCIAL</b></p> <p>Follow "Recycling Authority" on Facebook.</p> <p> Like us on Facebook facebook.com/rrrasoc</p>	<p><b>PHONE</b></p> <p> <b>Call RRRASOC:</b> <b>248-208-2270</b></p>
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### Not Sure What to Do With Stuff? Get Answers with the Recycling Directory!

RRRASOC's Recycling Directory is an online, searchable, intuitive tool that provides you with RRRASOC specific information and tips on recycling, composting, reuse or disposal options.

The Recycling Directory can be found on the RRRASOC website, [www.RRRASOC.org](http://www.RRRASOC.org), and is available as a free mobile smartphone app. Search for "Recycling Authority".




The Resource Recovery and Recycling Authority of Southwest Oakland County (RRRASOC) is a municipal solid waste authority that helps its member communities provide cost-effective, environmentally responsible and convenient waste and recycling programs, including recycling drop-off centers, curbside recycling collection, and household hazardous waste collection events.

We are often referred to as **The Recycling Authority** for short or by the acronym **RRRASOC**.

Member communities include Farmington, Farmington Hills, Village of Milford, Milford Township, Novi, South Lyon, Southfield, Walled Lake, and Wixom.

*Lyon Township, New Hudson, & Other Ineligible Residents: Check locally for recycling options pertaining to your community.*

## SOLID WASTE SERVICES SUMMARY: GARBAGE, BULK ITEMS, YARD WASTE

YOUR COMMUNITY	YOUR HAULER	GARBAGE	BULK HOUSEHOLD ITEMS	YARD WASTE	BULK LEAF COLLECTION
Farmington Hills		95-gal. trash carts 35-gal. trash containers or trash bags	<b>BULK HOUSEHOLD ITEMS ARE:</b>  Heavier than 30 pounds or  More than 4 feet in length  Do not fit into a garbage can or bag  Examples include appliances, furniture, etc.  Bulk items are often collected with a separate truck	Collected weekly on your designated collection day, April through November	Not Available
Farmington				Check directly with your community for yard waste collection start and end dates.	
Milford		35-gal. trash containers or trash bags		Yard waste includes:	Check with your community for details
Milford Township				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Grass clippings</li> <li>Yard vegetation</li> <li>Sod</li> <li>Leaves</li> <li>Twigs less than 2" diameter</li> </ul>	
Novi				Yard waste must be in:	
South Lyon				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brown paper yard waste bags or</li> <li>Trash cans labeled with a "yard waste" sticker</li> <li><b>NO PLASTIC BAGS</b></li> </ul>	Not Available
Southfield				Brush and tree trimmings:	Check with your community for details
Walled Lake				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Generally must be 2" - 6" in diameter and 3" - 4" in length</li> <li>Contact your community for specific guidelines</li> <li>Bundle securely with string or twine or place in paper yard waste bags</li> <li><b>DO NOT USE WIRE</b></li> </ul>	Not Available
Wixom				Check with your community for details	

GARBAGE, RECYCLING, BULK ITEMS AND YARD WASTE ARE COLLECTED WEEKLY BY YOUR CONTRACTED WASTE HAULER.  
ALL ITEMS SHOULD BE SET OUT ON YOUR DESIGNATED COLLECTION DAY BY 7:00 A.M.  
CHECK WITH YOUR COMMUNITY FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS FOR ALL SOLID WASTE SERVICES.

## HAVE QUESTIONS? HERE'S WHO TO CONTACT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT:

	Curbside Collection for Garbage, Bulk Items, Yard Waste, Recycling	Curbside Clothing Recycling	What to Recycle	Household Hazardous Waste
Farmington	Farmington DPW 248-473-7250	Simple Recycling, Inc. 866-835-5068	RRRASOC 248-208-2270 rrrasoc.org	
Farmington Hills	Farmington Hills DPW 248-871-2850			
Milford	Priority Waste 586-228-1200			
Milford Township	Township Offices 248-685-8731			
Novi	Priority Waste 586-228-1200			
South Lyon	Priority Waste 586-228-1200			
Southfield	Southfield DPW 248-796-4860			
Walled Lake	City Offices 248-624-4847 OR Priority Waste 586-228-1200			
Wixom	Wixom DPW 248-624-0141 OR Priority Waste 586-228-1200			

The following holidays are observed by the waste haulers:

**New Year's Day - January 1**

**Memorial Day - Last Monday of May**

**Independence Day - July 4**

**Labor Day - First Monday of September**

**Thanksgiving Day - Fourth Thursday of November**

**Christmas Day - December 25**

When a holiday falls on a weekday, refuse, recycling, yard waste, and Simple Recycling clothing collection service will be delayed by one day. Regular collection service will resume the following week.

## HOW TO RECYCLE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Single family households in RRRASOC communities have weekly curbside recycling collection provided by their contracted waste hauler, Waste Management or Priority Waste. Once collected, recyclable materials are delivered to the RRRASOC Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) in Southfield to be sorted, separated, baled and shipped to end markets.

Community	Curbside Recycling Container	How to Get a Cart or Bin
Farmington	64-gallon recycling carts	248-473-7250 (Farmington DPW)
Farmington Hills	64-gallon recycling carts	248-871-2850 (Farmington Hills DPW)
Milford	64-gallon carts or 18-gallon bins	<b>For Carts:</b> Priority Waste Customer Service 586-228-1200 or info@prioritywaste.com <b>For Bins:</b> Visit the Village Office
Milford Township	64-gallon carts or 18-gallon bins	248-685-8731 (Township Offices)
Novi	64-gallon recycling carts	586-228-1200 (Priority Waste)
South Lyon	64-gallon carts or 18-gallon bins	<b>For Carts:</b> Priority Waste Customer Service 586-228-1200 or info@prioritywaste.com <b>For Bins:</b> 248-437-2326 (South Lyon DPW)
Southfield	64-gallon carts or 18-gallon bins	<b>For Carts:</b> 248-796-4860 (Southfield DPW) <b>For Bins: <u>New residents:</u></b> 248-796-4860 (Southfield DPW) <b><u>Current residents:</u></b> 248-796-5140 Purchase bins at Neighborhood & Information Center in lobby of City Hall
Walled Lake	64-gallon carts or 18-gallon bins	<b>Carts or Bins:</b> 248-624-4847 (City Offices) <b>Carts Only:</b> or 586-228-1200 (Priority Waste)
Wixom	Choice of wheeled recycling carts in sizes - 35, 64, or 96-gallon	248-624-0141 (Wixom DPW) or 586-228-1200 (Priority Waste)

**When using a recycling cart, always place the cart with the "street side" imprint towards the street and the handle toward the HOUSE.**

<p><b>RRRASOC Materials Recovery Facility Recycling Drop-Off Site</b></p> <p>20000 W. Eight Mile Road, Southfield Northeast corner of Evergreen and Eight Mile Road</p> <p>Open daylight hours, 7 day a week</p> <p><b>Note: Styrofoam and electronics are NOT accepted at this site.</b></p>	<p><b>City of Novi Recycling Drop-off Site</b></p> <p>DPS Garage, 26300 Lee BeGole Drive, Novi North off of 11 Mile Road between Town Center and Meadowbrook Roads</p> <p>Open daylight hours, 7 day a week</p> <p><b>Note: Styrofoam and electronics are NOT accepted at this site.</b></p>
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# RRRASOC RECYCLING GUIDELINES

## PREPARING YOUR RECYCLABLES:



Keep them  
**EMPTY, CLEAN,**  
and **DRY**



**DON'T BAG**  
THEM; leave  
them loose



Break down  
cardboard boxes  
to save space



Return grocery  
bags to stores  
for recycling

## PAPER



### Flattened Cardboard, Clean Pizza Boxes, & Wrapping Paper

*No grease or food;  
no glitter or foil on wrapping paper.*



### Paperboard Boxes, Paper Cups, & Paper Bags

*No foam/foam-lined cups;  
throw away stirrers, lids, and straws.*



### Milk, Juice, & Soup Cartons

*Throw away straws, lids, and caps.  
Ice cream cartons are not accepted.*



### Office Paper, Folders, Mail, Magazines, Newspaper, Paperback & Phone Books

*Staples and labels are okay. No clips,  
spiral notebooks, or hardcover books.*

## PLASTIC



### Garden Plastics

*Remove soil and plants.*



### Plastic Jugs, Bottles, & Containers: #1, #2, #4 – #7

*Leave lids and caps on. No packaging foam.*



### Bulky #2 Plastics

*Includes hampers, totes, milk cartons,  
cat litter buckets, etc.*

## METAL



### Steel/Aluminum Bottles & Cans

*Paint cans are not accepted.*



### Pots & Pans

*Remove glass lids before recycling.  
Ceramics are not accepted.*

## GLASS



### Glass Bottles & Jars

*All colors accepted. No window panes, mirrors,  
dishware or bakeware.*

## NOT ACCEPTED CURBSIDE OR AT THE DROP-OFF SITES:

Check these items on the Recycling Directory at [RRRASOC.org](http://RRRASOC.org) for more info



**Plastic Bags & Wrap**  
Food storage bags, snack  
bags, bread bags, etc.



**Yard Waste**  
Leaves, twigs, grass, etc.



**E-Waste**  
Phones, TVs, laptops, etc.



**Hazardous Waste**  
Paint, cleaners, pesticides, etc.



**Shredded Paper**  
Use RRRASOC shredder



**Tanglers**  
Hose, hangers, wire, string  
light, extension cords, etc.



**Batteries**  
Alkaline, lithium-ion, etc.



**Polystyrene Foam**  
"Styrofoam", packing  
peanuts, takeout boxes, etc.



**Waxed Cardboard**  
Freezer boxes



**Food Waste**  
Fruits, veggies, meat, etc.



**Medical Waste**  
Needles, syringes, pills, etc.



**Paper Towels, Facial  
Tissue or Toilet Paper**

## RRRASOC Services the Following Member Communities:

Farmington, Farmington Hills, Milford, Milford Township, Novi, Southfield, South Lyon, Walled Lake, and Wixom

**CONNECT WITH US:**



**WEB**  
[www.rrrasoc.org](http://www.rrrasoc.org)



**MOBILE APP**  
for iOS & Android



**E-NEWS**  
Sign up for e-news  
at [rrrasoc.org](http://rrrasoc.org)



**SOCIAL**  
[facebook.com/rrrasoc](https://facebook.com/rrrasoc)



## BEYOND THE BIN: ABOUT THE MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF)

The RRRASOC Materials Recovery Facility (or MRF) is located at the northeast corner of Eight Mile and Evergreen Roads in Southfield. It was originally built in 1994 on the site of a vacant manufacturing facility and completed renovated in 2016.

The RRRASOC facility is a state-of-the-art single stream processing system that sorts, separates and bales recyclables collected from our nine member communities as well as regionally from other communities. Once baled, the recyclable commodities are sold and shipped locally, nationally and globally and are used as resources to make new products.

The MRF can process up to 20 tons of recyclable material per hour from residential curbside recycling programs, commercial and industrial businesses and items collected from RRRASOC's two recycling drop-off sites.



## PREPARING YOUR RECYCLABLES







As technology improves, we have been able to require much less preparation of the recyclables for pick-up. No longer must a resident remove labels or caps from food containers.

Here are a few tips on how to make your recycling as easy as possible:

- ✔ Please rinse containers. We're not looking for perfection; we just want to keep odors and pest problems at a minimum.
- ✔ Labels do not need to be removed.
- ✔ Keep caps on plastic bottles and containers.
- ✔ Keep recyclables LOOSE in your bin or cart or in the recycling drop-off site containers. DO NOT BAG RECYCLABLES. Plastic bags and recyclables in bags are removed and thrown away.
- ✔ Flatten cardboard or paperboard boxes, to allow for more space in your bin/cart.

## RECYCLE RIGHT. IT MATTERS. #FightRecyclingContamination

We need your help! Unacceptable items — such as garden hoses, plastic bags, diapers, needles, medical waste, propane tanks, and batteries as well as yard and food waste expose employees at the recycling facility to unsafe materials, lower productivity and reduce the quality of recyclable materials. This increases the costs of recycling operations and lowers the value of your recyclables.

Got This?	Please DO This:	It's Important Because:
 <p><b>Batteries</b></p>	<p>Recycle at Special Locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alkaline &amp; rechargeable batteries to free drop-off locations listed on <a href="http://Call2Recycle.org">Call2Recycle.org</a></li> <li>Rechargeable batteries to Best Buy or Batteries Plus Bulbs</li> <li>All battery types accepted at RRRASOC Household Hazardous Waste events</li> </ul>	<p>Batteries are safety hazards for workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All materials are sorted by hand</li> <li>Corrosive acids cause burns to skin and eyes</li> <li>Can cause fires at the Materials Recovery Facility</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Plastic bags</b></p>	<p>Recycle at Special Locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lobbies and service areas of grocery and big box retailers</li> </ul>	<p>Plastic bags tangle up in equipment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Moving gears and parts of the sorting equipment get jammed</li> <li>Facility must shut down equipment for hours of manual removal of the bags each day</li> <li>Plastic bags received in RRRASOC's program are considered contamination and will be landfilled</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Propane Tanks</b></p>	<p>Accepted at RRRASOC Household Hazardous Waste events Return to Retailer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20-pound steel propane tanks accepted by many retailers at no-charge</li> <li>Regardless of condition and functionality</li> <li>Manufacturers refurbish or recycle tanks</li> </ul>	<p>Propane tanks are safety hazards for workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Can cause fires, explosions, serious injury or death</li> <li>Do not put in trash cans, recycling bins, or recycling drop-off centers</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Sharps (Lancets, needles, etc.)</b></p>	<p>Prepare and Dispose Properly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Store sharps in FDA approved or hard plastic container</li> <li>Seal full containers, label "SHARPS", dispose with household trash</li> <li>Search online and use a sharps mail-in program</li> </ul>	<p>Sharps are safety hazards for workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poses puncture risks while sorting material by hand</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Styrofoam (Polystyrene)</b></p>	<p>Recycle at Special Locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit Dart Container's website for locations: <a href="http://www.dartcontainer.com/environment/ps-foam-recycling/">www.dartcontainer.com/environment/ps-foam-recycling/</a></li> </ul>	<p>Foam products are NOT recyclable with RRRASOC's curbside or drop-off recycling programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Considered contamination</li> <li>Will be landfilled</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Yard Waste</b></p>	<p>Set Out Separately in Your Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected seasonally at the curbside</li> <li>Check with your community for instructions</li> </ul>	<p>Yard Waste is NOT recyclable with RRRASOC's curbside or drop-off recycling programs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collected separately by your community</li> <li>Delivered to a compost facility</li> </ul>

### **When in Doubt, Keep It Out!**

Quality Matters. Please recycle only acceptable materials.

Not sure what can be recycled? Check the Recycling Guidelines on page 5 or search the Recycling Directory on-line

## HOW WELL IS MICHIGAN RECYCLING?

Michigan's 21% recycling rate is one of the lowest in the region and well below the 32% national recycling average. For recycling to work, each of us must commit to recycling where we live, work and play.

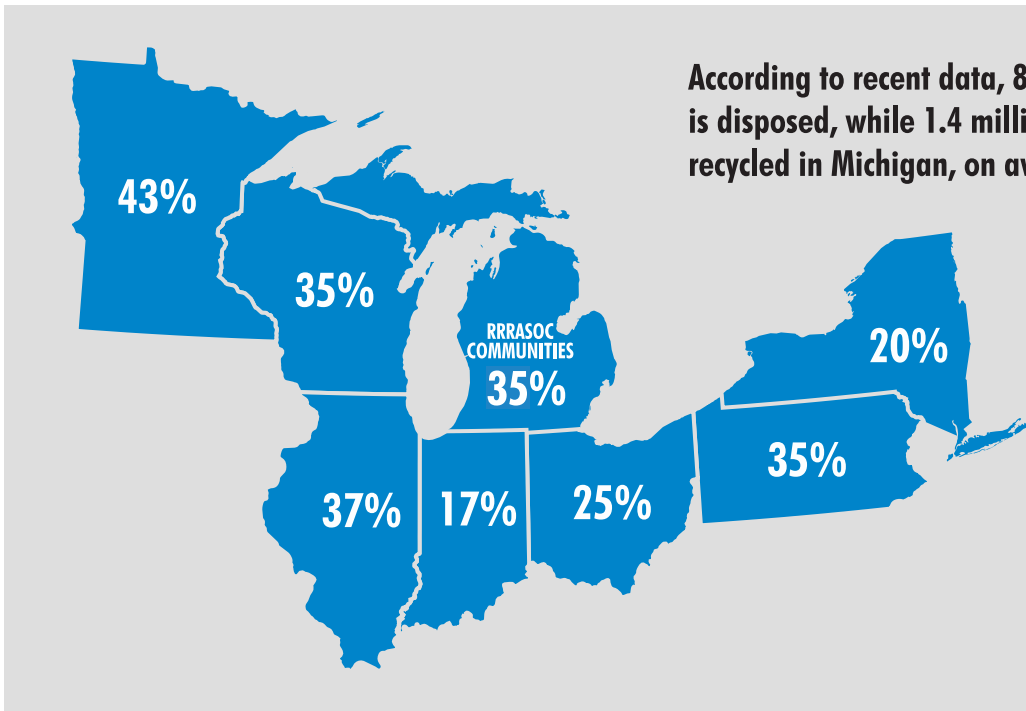
We can make a difference by reducing, reusing, and recycling materials at home, school, work and in our communities.

Encourage your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers to do the same. If recycling isn't available, take the initiative to make it happen.

### Recycling is Important because...

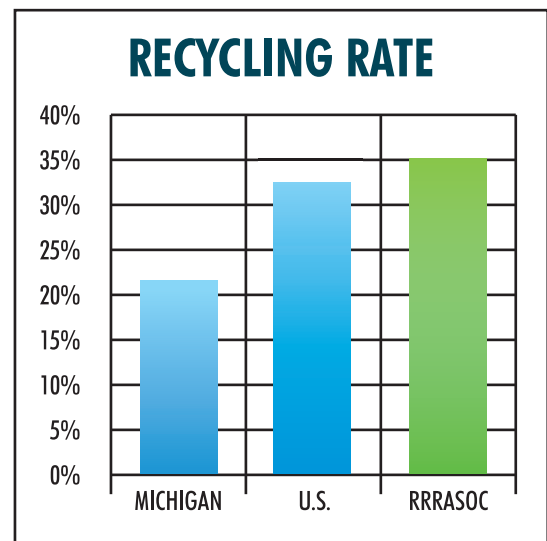
- ✔ Much of our waste can be used to create new products instead of being buried and lost in a landfill.
- ✔ Recycling supports our local and state economy.
- ✔ Recycling conserves natural resources, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, and reduces air and water pollution.

## REGIONAL RECYCLING RATES



## HOW DOES OUR RATE COMPARE?

The RRRASOC member communities collectively have a recycling rate of approximately 35%, and consistently divert more than 35,000 tons annually from landfill disposal through recycling, composting, Simple Recycling textile program and household hazardous waste collection events.





## SIMPLE RECYCLING CURBSIDE CLOTHING & TEXTILE RECYCLING

Clothing and textiles are 100% recyclable, but 85% still ends up in landfills. Residents in all 9 RRRASOC member communities can recycle unwanted clothing, shoes, accessories, and other household items such as kitchenware, tools, toys, and books through *Simple Recycling*: an easy, free, and convenient way to keep this 100% recyclable and reusable material out of landfills!

The *Simple Recycling* program is in addition to your current recycling program. Your recycling cart/bin collection will remain the same. Don't live in a community serviced by *Simple Recycling*? We encourage you to donate your unwanted clothing to your favorite charity or secondhand store! We provide a list of local charitable organizations on our **Reuse/Repurpose** page, including those who offer at-home pickup.



### HOW DOES THE SIMPLE RECYCLING PROGRAM WORK?

1. Schedule a pickup by completing the form available on our **Clothing & Textile Recycling** page or at **SimpleRecycling.com**.  **Schedule Your Free Home Pickup**
2. Place clothing, shoes, and small household items that you no longer need in a waterproof bag or box clearly marked "SIMPLE RECYCLING".  **Place outside your front door by 7:30am**
3. Leave it on your front porch or in front of your garage door by 7:30am on your scheduled pickup day and *Simple Recycling* will collect them and recycle their contents for reuse!  **We give your clothing a new life!**

#### ACCEPTABLE ITEMS INCLUDE:

- Clothing
- Coats
- Kitchenware
- Pillows
- Tools
- Bedding
- Fashion Accessories
- Linens
- Shoes & Slippers (Pairs)
- Towels
- Books
- Halloween Costumes
- Pajamas
- Socks (Single or Pairs)
- Toys
- Bras
- Hats & Caps
- Pet Beds
- Stuffed Animals
- Undergarments



*Simple Recycling* is focused on clothing and textile recycling, but they also accept small household goods in working condition.



# DOCUMENTS ADDING UP?

Bring yours to the  
**RRRASOC self-serve  
industrial paper shredder!**



Find it just inside the door near our  
drop-off containers.

Open Mon - Fri 6am - 4:30pm

**FREE** for all RRRASOC  
community members

Located at:



**RRRASOC**

**THE RECYCLING  
AUTHORITY**

20000 Eight Mile Rd. Southfield, MI

**PERSONAL DOCUMENTS ONLY - NO BUSINESSES**

For a list of acceptable/unacceptable items, please visit  
[www.rrrasoc.org/paper-shredder](http://www.rrrasoc.org/paper-shredder).

## GOT HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE?

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) includes products used in and around your home, garden, and garage that contain ingredients that, when handled and disposed improperly, can cause harm to people and the environment.

These products have the following characteristics: **Corrosivity; Toxicity; Flammability; Reactivity.** Warnings on labels such as “poisonous or toxic”, “flammable or ignitable”, or “corrosive” are indicators that the items should be disposed of as HHW. Cleaners that contain strong acids, bleach or ammonia are also hazardous, as is oil-based paint.

RRRASOC provides household hazardous waste events yearly in several of our member communities to help residents properly and safely dispose of household hazardous waste materials.

**Visit [rrrasoc.org](http://rrrasoc.org) or Recycling Authority mobile app for the current HHW event schedule.**



## CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE HHW EVENTS?

Residents in RRRASOC's nine member communities may take their HHW materials directly to our vendor's Livonia facility, at no-cost. Please call ERG Environmental Services at 734-437-9650.

**FIND MORE INFORMATION ON THE RRRASOC.ORG WEBSITE OR RECYCLING AUTHORITY MOBILE APP:**



- **Household Hazardous Waste Guide**
- **Paint Disposal Guide**
- **What to do with Batteries and Bulbs**
- **Healthy Lawn and Garden Flyer**



## MEDICINE DISPOSAL

*The proper disposal of unused or expired medications protects the environment and human health and safety.*

With the abuse of prescription medicine on the rise, it is important to promptly and properly dispose of unused, expired medications. Use one of the options below to reduce the risk of people improperly consuming or handling medications.



### WHAT SHOULD YOU DO WITH UNWANTED/EXPIRED MEDICATIONS?

**Do NOT flush medications down the drain or toilet.**

Medicines flushed down the drain or toilet pass through waste water treatment plants. These facilities do not treat water for such chemicals, which end up directly in our lakes and streams.

**Do NOT throw medications in the trash.**

Medicines disposed in landfills can potentially seep into and contaminate surrounding groundwater.

**Check with your pharmacy to see if they have a drug take back program.**

**Bring unwanted medicine to a RRRASOC Household Hazardous Waste Event.**

**Drop off unwanted medicine to a local Police Department:**

Farmington Hills Police Department – 31655 W. 11 Mile Road (248-871-2600)

Farmington Police Department – 23600 Liberty (248-474-4700)

Novi Police Department – 45125 W. Ten Mile (248-348-7100)

South Lyon Police Department - 219 Whipple Street (248-437-1773)

Walled Lake Police Department – 1499 E. West Maple Road (248-624-3120)

Village of Milford/Milford Township Police Department – 1100 Atlantic (248-684-1815)

*\*The above locations accept unused medications in pill form only. No liquid medication or sharps.*

*\*Keep medications in their original container. Make personal information unreadable. Do not remove the name of the medication.*



**R·R·R·A·S·O·C**

**20000 W. Eight Mile Rd.  
Southfield, MI 48075**

 Like us on  
**Facebook**  
facebook.com/rrrasoc

**NOT SURE WHAT TO DO  
WITH STUFF?**

Download the "Recycling Authority"  
mobile app for iPhone and Android



**To Our Friends At:**

***Important information about your trash  
and recycling collection is inside.***



# **RRRASOC THE RE-SOURCE GUIDE**

**Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling Guidelines from The Recycling Authority**



***STOP – DON'T PITCH THIS!  
It's A Keeper!***

***Important information about your trash  
and recycling collection is inside.  
Please read and keep it handy!***



***HOLIDAY COLLECTION  
SCHEDULE - PAGE 3***



***RECYCLING GUIDELINES  
- PAGE 5***



***MEDICATION DISPOSAL  
- PAGE 11***